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Office of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number: Application Number 09/287,304 Filing Date April 7, 1999 CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) First Named Inventor Yamamoto et al. TRANSMITTAL Group Art Unit 2673 Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application Examiner Name Piziali, Jr. filed on or after June 8, 1995. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA). Attomey Docket Number 0941.63012 This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application. 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 Previously submitted Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on ____October 14, 2002 (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered). Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _ b. X Enclosed i. Amendment/Reply DEC 0 3 2002 iii. 🔲 Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Technology Center 2600 iv. 🗓 Other Petition for extension of time (with check for \$400.00) 2. Miscellaneous Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required) Other 3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to 07-2069 RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) Any additional fees required under 37 CFR Secs. 1.16-1.17 b. 🔼 Check in the amount of \$ 740.00 & 400.00 enclosed c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed) SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED Name (Print /Type) Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) Signature 48,872 Date November 26, CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Name (Print/Type) Signature

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO November 26, NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231 12/03/2002 ANONDAF1 00000132 09287304

Date